

Letter and enclosure from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, January 27, 1901

Volta Bureau, January 27, 1901. Dear Mabel:—

I enclose a copy of the Joint Resolution approved by Congress April 12, 1892, and a copy of the Resolution relating to Research adopted by the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution on the 23rd inst: Also copies of letters to Prof. Langley, Hon. Robt. R. Hitt, and Senator Platt (of Conn.) which will show you that I have taken the first steps to bring the matter to the attention of Congress.

I also enclose a copy of a proposed Joint Resolution to be offered in Congress embodying the recommendations of the Board of Regents.

Your loving husband Alec.

Drawer No. 18 DR. BELL'S ROOM, Hubbard Memorial 1156 16th Street, Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell, 6 Rue de Longchamps, Paris, France.

DRAFT OF PROPOSED JOINT RESOLUTION OF CONGRESS PREPARED BY MR. A. C. TRUE AT THE VOLTA BUREAU, January 26, 1901.

Joint Resolution to facilitate the utilization of the Government Departments for the purposes of research — in extension of the policy enunciated by Congress in the Joint Resolution approved April 12, 1892: —

R ESOLVED: by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled: — That the facilities for research and illustration in the

Library of Congress

Governmental collections now existing or hereafter to be established for the promotion of knowledge shall be accessible under such rules and restrictions as the officers in charge of each collection may prescribe, subject to such authority as is now or may be hereafter be permitted by law, to scientific investigators and to students and graduates of institutions of higher education in the several states and territories, as well as in the District of Columbia:

AND RESOLVED FURTHER : That, in order to carry this Resolution into effect, there shall be, and hereby is, established a Bureau the functions of which shall be to ascertain and make known what facilities for research exist in the Government Departments, and arrange with the heads of the Departments, and with the officers in charge of Government collections, on terms satisfactory to them, rules and regulations under which suitably qualified persons may have access to these collections for the purposes of research with due regard to the needs and requirements of the work of the Government; and also to direct, in a manner satisfactory to the heads of such Departments and officers in charge, the researches of such persons into lines which will promote the interests of the Government, and the development of the natural resources, agriculture, manufactures and commerce of the country, and (generally) promote the progress of science and the useful arts, and the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men.